

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

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IO-12 DPW-01 AF-10 EUR-25 AID-20 RSR-01 /149 W

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R 200453 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8400

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 2277

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, EG, PK, XD, XF

SUBJECT: VISIT OF EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: NEW DELHI 3091 NOTAL

BEGIN SUMMARY: VISIT OF EGYPTIAN FONMIN EL- ZAYYAT APPARENTLY PRODUCED NOTHING NEW OR EXTRAORDINARY, AND BOTH SIDES CONFINED THEMSELVES TO RESTATEMENT OF WELL- KNOWN POSITIONS. ONLY VAGUE REFERENCE TO CONTINUED INDIAN RETENTION PAK POWS WAS ALLOWED TO CREEP INTO COMMUNIQUE, WHILE GOP REAFFIRMED CONTINUED SOLIDARITY WITH ARAB CAUSE. FONMIN MET PRESIDENT BHUTTO AND HIS TOP SPECIAL ASSISTANT RAFI RAZA. END SUMMARY

1. EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER EL- ZAYYAT, ACCOMPANIED BY EGYPTIAN CHIEF OF PROTOCOL OLAMA AND OTHER OFFICIALS, VISITED PAKISTAN MARCH 16-18 IN COURSE OF HIS ASIAN TOUR. FONMIN CALLED UPON PRESIDENT BHUTTO AND LATER HAD " INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS" WITH BHUTTO' S
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SPECIAL ASSISTANT, RAFI RAZA. TALKS DESCRIBED AS COVERING " MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST" AND AS BEING HELD IN ATMOSPHERE OF " FRATERNAL UNDERSTANDING."

2. IN JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED MARCH 18, BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT FOREIGN RELATIONS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED ON BASIS OF " INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PRINCIPLES OF RESPECT FOR NATIONAL SOVREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY... AND NON- INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES." THEY CALLED FOR ALL STATES TO RESPECT AND STRICTLY OBSERVE UN CHARTER AND TO IMPLEMENT UN RESOLUTIONS AND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS. THEY EXPRESSED HOPE THAT OUTSTANDING SUBCONTINENTAL PROBLEMS, " INCLUDING THAT OF THE PRISONERS OF WAR," WOULD BE EXPEDITIOUSLY AND SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED. (COMMENT: APPARENTLY THIS WAS ALL PAKS COULD EXTRACT FROM INDIA' S PARTNER IN NONALIGNMENT; SPECIAL ASSISTANT RAZA WAS ALSO SAID TO HAVE " INFORMED" FONMIN ABOUT STATUS OF INDO- PAK RELATIONS.)

3. PRINCIPALS REPORTEDLY DISCUSSED SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST AND EXPRESSED " CONVICTION" THAT PEACE IN THAT AREA DEPENDED UPON IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI TROOPS FROM ALL OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES. PAKS REAFFIRMED CONTINUED SOLIDARITY WITH ARAB CAUSE.

4. BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED " SATISFACTION" AT " STEADY GROWTH OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL RELATIONS" BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES AND AGREED TO PERIODIC EXCHANGE OF OFFICIAL VISITORS.

5. COMMENT: DESPITE PAK FEELING THAT THEY HAVE REASON TO BE MIFFED AT EGYPTIANS FOLLOWING RECENT REVELATION BY AL AHRAH EDITOR HEYKAL OF EGYPTIAN ACQUIESCENCE IN 1971 SOVIET ARMS SHIPMENTS TO INDIA, VISIT RECEIVED GENERALLY FAVORABLE (ALTHOUGH MODEST) COVERAGE IN GOVERNMENT- CONTROLLED INFORMATION MEDIA. TREATMENT SUGGESTS PAKS PREPARED, IN INTEREST ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY, TO LET BYGONES BE BYGONES LONG AS UAR REFRAINS FROM FURTHER " PROVOCATIONS" SUCH AS EARLY RECOGNITION BANGLADESH.

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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